

to improve our K-12 institutions. Because K-12 is crucial in the development of science and math-savvy college students and workers, I believe we must concentrate a good portion of our resources on turning out good engineers, mathematicians, and scientists. We all know how important that is for our economy, the technology industry is the fastest growing segment of our society, and just a few weeks ago, we had to vote on whether or not to expand the number of visas available to highly-skilled workers from outside the United States! We could easily solve that problem by ensuring that all students graduating from high school have more than rudimentary skills in the areas of math and science and are encouraged to follow up on that education in a college or university.

Having highlighted these issues and with the understanding that I would like them included in our future discussions, I would like to endorse the use of this Report as a starting point for bringing science, math, and engineering to the forefront of our national agenda.

**HONORING RANDALL J. COLEMAN,
1998 HENRY EVANS VOLUNTEER
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 10, 1998

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Randall Coleman who recently received the Henry Evans Volunteer of the Year Award.

This award is presented annually by the Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce in order to honor a person who not only volunteers his time to support the chamber, but also volunteers in other community organizations. Randall Coleman has shown a lifelong commitment to volunteer service.

Mr. Coleman lives in the Shenango Valley with his wife Ann and son Grant. He has had a distinctive and promising career with Penn Power where he currently serves as the Mercer County Area Manager. But is Mr. Coleman's active role in the community that makes him a invaluable asset. He currently serves as a president of the Kiwanis Club of Sharon, as a member of the Pennsylvania Electric Association, the Pennsylvania Economy League, Private Industry Council, and the National Association of Industrial Office Properties, the American Heart Association as well as serving as a member in the fundraising cabinet of the United Way of Mercer County in its construction division.

Mr. Coleman served as the coordinator of volunteers for the Special Olympics of Mercer County. However, Randall Coleman feels that his most rewarding experience was teaching handicapped children to swim as an American Red Cross Lifeguard. It was a rewarding experience because for these children achieving this goal is more difficult because of their special needs.

I am proud to recognize Mr. Coleman's achievements today. He is certainly an asset to our community in western Pennsylvania.

ROBERT GEAKE, A DEDICATED
PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 10, 1998

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished public servant in my home State of Michigan, State Senator Robert Geake.

Born on October 26, 1936, in Detroit, MI, Bob grew up in the neighboring suburb of Ferndale. He attended the University of Michigan, earning a B.S. in special education, an M.A. in guidance and counseling, and a Ph.D in education and psychology.

After completing his education, Bob pursued a career in psychology and became an accomplished psychologist. In 1972, Bob was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives where he served with distinction until being elected to the State Senate in 1977.

Senator Geake established himself as the Michigan Legislature's expert on mental health issues. He also took an interest in anti-crime measures and spearheaded Michigan's anti-stalking laws. Under his leadership, Michigan has the nation's toughest and most enforceable laws against stalking. Senator Geake has also led the fight to enact tough penalties against drunk driving and sponsored legislation to eliminate Michigan's inheritance tax. A leader on child development and family issues, Senator Geake has been instrumental in passing legislation to crack down on dead beat parents who are delinquent in their child support payments.

Senate Geake is known in Lansing as a statesman and one of the most effective lawmakers in the State Legislature. A recent analysis by the Detroit News indicated that Senator Geake ranked first among the 148 Michigan lawmakers in the numbers of bills passed.

Senator Geake is retiring from the State Senate at the conclusion of his term this year. His leadership will be missed. Senator Geake has been a strong advocate for Michigan families. His efforts to cut taxes, strengthen families, and make our communities safe from violent crime have made Michigan a better place to live.

I wish Senator Geake and his wife, Carol, the best of luck in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 10, 1998

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. On October 10, 1998, I was absent due to an illness in my family. I received an official leave of absence from the majority leader in this regard.

However, had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner on the following legislation:

H.R. 4567. To revise Medicare program—On suspending the rules and passing the bill (Rollcall No. 516) "aye."

H. Con. Res. 334. Relating to Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization—On suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution (Rollcall No. 517) "aye."

H. Con. Res. 320. To support the Baltic people of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania—On suspending the rules and passing the concurrent resolution (Rollcall No. 518) "aye."

H.R. 2616. Charter Schools Senate Amendments—On suspending the rules and passing the bill (Rollcall No. 519) "aye."

S. 852. Auto Salvage—On suspending the rules and passing the bill (Rollcall No. 520) "aye."

**FCC AND TELEPHONE
COMPETITION**

HON. W.J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 10, 1998

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation with several original cosponsors. They are Mr. DINGELL, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. ROGAN, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. KLINK, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. BURR. Mr. speaker, this legislation essentially begins the process of reviewing the inadequacies of FCC implementation of the local competition provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specifically, our bill amends provisions contained in section 271 of the Act, dealing with interLATA (long distance) entry by the Bell Companies.

It is frustrating that nearly three years have passed since the Telecom Act of 1996 was enacted into law. Five applications for long distance service have been received by the FCC, and four have been denied. The fifth, an application approved by the Louisiana Public Service Commission by a vote of 4-1, is now pending at the FCC. Frankly, I am not encouraged that it will be granted when the FCC makes its decision on October 13 of this year.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 was intended to open up competition in both the local and long-distance markets; but, the FCC appears determined to preserve the long-distance service monopoly that traditional interexchange companies have enjoyed since the conception of the telephone. Today, only business subscribers are realizing more choices from competitors to incumbent LECs.

This legislation will attempt to codify what the intent of the conferees was during their deliberations on the 1996 Act. That is, the states should have explicit authority over determining intrastate interLATA service in their respective states. In addition, the legislation we are introducing today would modify other provisions of the law as noted in the attached talking points.

I look forward to working with all of our colleagues early in the 10th Congress to loudly send a message to the FCC, the Department of Justice, and the administration that the "status quo" is no longer acceptable. Only true, open competition in all markets will be acceptable now, not later.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF INTERLATA COMMUNICATIONS
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 1998**

State Jurisdiction Over Intrastate InterLATA Services. The legislation authorizes the state public service commission to grant BOC applications to provide intrastate InterLATA telecommunications services upon satisfaction of Track A/B, the competitive checklist and public interest requirements. If the State fails to act on an intrastate InterLATA application within the 90-